



Michael O. Leavitt Governor Ted Stewart Executive Director James W. Carter Division Director

## State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 6, 1995

TO:

Minerals File

FROM:

Tom Munson, Reclamation Hydrologist

RE:

Site Inspection, American Consolidated Mining Company, Herat Mine, S/045/023, Tooele

County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

August 31, 1995

Conditions:

Sunny, warm

Participants:

Keith Moeller, Consolidated Mining; Tom Munson, and Lynn Kunzler, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

To inspect reclamation in parcel B, under the direction of Keith Moeller

In viewing the reclamation, we looked at trenches which had been filled in and seeded, approximately 2 years earlier. It was requested that American Consolidated provide justification for using the remainder of disturbed areas for future mining; therefore, they needed to obtain release of areas currently bonded.

After Lynn viewed the trenches, it was decided that at least one more year was needed before release could be given, and also some interstitial seeding of various grasses would be appropriate in the bare areas.

The following species were observed on the reclaimed areas: mountain sagebrush, indian ricegrass, basin wildrye, Nev. Ephedra, bluebunch wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, russian wildrye. The following species were observed in the native areas: mountain sagebrush, indian ricegrass, basin wildrye, Nevada ephedra, bluebunch wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, russian wildrye, greasewood, rabbitbrush, needle and thread, squirrel tail, sandberg bluegrass, pinyon, juniper, galleta and Wyoming sagebrush.

Approximately 15 - 17% cover was observed in the reclaimed trenches, compared to 25% in the adjacent native areas. He needs approximately 17½% cover for bond release, so he is just shy of bond release, at this point in time. Lynn felt that one more years growth, depending on the success of the species that were observed would dictate bond release.

Keith Moeller stated that he and a geologist, Dan Proctor, would put together a map of all their current disturbances at the Clifton site, the Herat mine and the Kiewit area, which is considered parcel C. Keith Moeller was informed that until this map was given to the Division, the release of any reclaimed areas could not be given.